



Grow
Waitaha

Ko ngā ākonga te pūtake o ngā ara hou Learners at the centre of change

IMPACT REPORT 2023 / 2024

Photo: Ākonga from Rāwhiti School



He mihi Acknowledgements

He mihi tēnei ki te whenua e noho nei, e mahi nei tātou hei oranga mō tēnā mō tēnā o tātou. Koutou hoki ko te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga e rere ai te manu, tēnā koutou!

Grow Waitaha is a multi-year project to support schools in post-earthquake greater Christchurch through citywide educational transformation.

Grow Waitaha aims to enable schools and kura to reimagine education for young people across the region.

Our focus is on sustainable transformation through celebration, consolidation and collaboration.

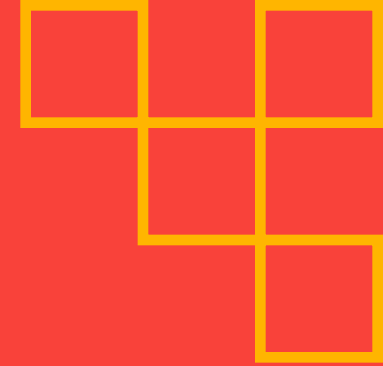
- + We support kura to collaborate and learn from each other to create better outcomes for all ākongā.
- + We extend and support the thinking of kaiako and school leaders to meet the current and future needs of ākongā.
- + We continue to support kura undertaking rebuilds and teaching in new environments.

- + We aim to promote collaboration between kura by fostering self-sustaining networks of kura, kaiako, and ākongā.

Our impact report is part of our commitment to continually review our work and invite input from the sector to ensure we remain future-focused.

We welcome ongoing feedback and any suggestions you would like to contribute. Please email:

growwaitaha@gmail.com



Ko tā mātou mahi What we do

Our mahi is designed under
four **pou / impact areas**.

Our **pou** guide our approach as
we collaborate with schools and
communities to action initiatives
and solutions to make an impact.



Ngā mahi i oti i
te tau kua hipa
Our activities
over the last year

23

Events



14

Useful
resources



6

Communities
of practice



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Impact stories



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Sustainable
networks





Equity and Inclusion

Photo: Ākonga from Waitaha School



Mairangatia te Angitu

Tūwhitia te hopo, mairangatia te angitu!

Eliminate the negative; accentuate the positive!

Credit: [Kupu o te Rā](#)

Mairangatia te Angitu was a two-day symposium for leaders of kaupapa Māori, Kāhui Ako ASLs, and the network of cultural leaders across Waitaha to celebrate Māori success as Māori. The symposium was co-designed by a working group including mana whenua representatives Lynne Te Aika and Liz Hill-Taiaroa along with Grow Waitaha team members Verity Tamepo, Janelle Riki-Waaka, Dr Chris Jansen and Dr Cheryl Doig.



Our intentions

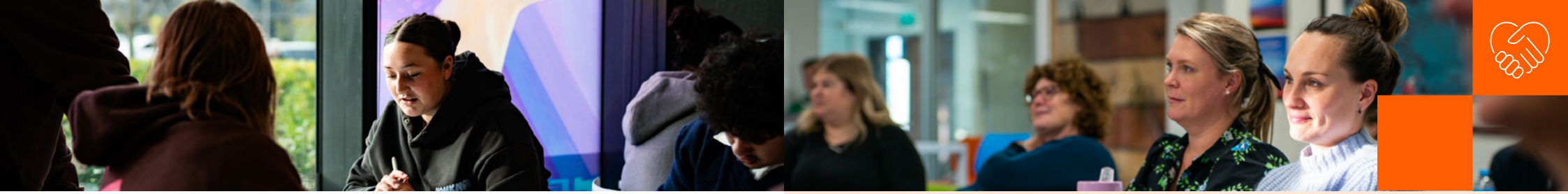
- + Share ideas and strategies to support ākonga Māori success.
- + Make an impact on practice to meet these Grow Waitaha priorities:
 - + As te Tiriti partners, schools actively work in collaboration with mana whenua rūnaka to support Ngāi Tahu aspirations.
 - + Kaimahi and ākonga have a sense of identity, belonging, and place.
 - + Using practices from inclusive education to identify and remove barriers to make learning is accessible for all.
 - + Understanding and implementing a broad definition of success.
 - + Using authentic, rich curriculum and pedagogical approaches that reflect our bi-cultural nation.

The following voices share the impact of Mairangatia te Angitu



“It was a fantastic way to start the term. My wairua is full and I’m keen to share.”

“I am now inspired to look at further education to expand my knowledge of te reo Māori, the language, history and future.”



Kōkirihiā, wānanga rangatahi

Kōkirihiā, the plan for removing streaming from our schools, was released in March 2023. Supported by Grow Waitaha, Tokona te Raki invited Māori and Pacific student leaders (age 16 years and over) to attend a series of wānanga designed to encourage a movement for positive change in our education system.

Our intentions for the wānanga rangatahi

- + Whanaungatanga – raise awareness through in-person connections, digital media, and community events.
- + Wānanga – build connections through wānanga to develop collective understanding about the impact of streaming and how ending streaming will lead to better outcomes for rangatahi.
- + Kotahitanga – create a movement of rangatahi voice across the motu through connection and awareness.

What we did

- + A series of wānanga at the Tokona te Raki lab in 2023, facilitated by Kaya Renata-Staples from Tokona te Raki, and Carmen Aldridge.
- + A new series of wānanga to support rangatahi to maintain momentum for the kaupapa, facilitated by Kaya Renata-Staples at the Tokona te Raki lab in 2024.

The following video shares the impact of the wānanga

[VIEW →](#)



Destreaming maths and literacy programmes in primary education

Our destreaming workshops for kaiako and leaders explored why destreaming through flexible grouping is a valuable and effective support for equity in all primary school classrooms.

Our intentions for the workshops

- + Share what flexible and mixed groupings look like and how they work.
- + Share research and practical ideas for providing ākonga with equitable and inclusive learning opportunities.

What we did

- + A destreaming in primary education maths workshop at BrainTree Wellness Centre, facilitated by Amanda Campbell.
- + A destreaming in primary education literacy workshop at BrainTree Wellness Centre, facilitated by Amanda Campbell.

The following voices share the impact of the workshops

“I thought I was destreaming but it has made me think of better ways to do it and ensure students are getting their needs met.”



“How negative the impact is on students to be in ability groups and lots of ideas to change how we do literacy in the classroom.”

“I really liked the information provided on setting up strong group norms. All of these ideas of what a destreamed classroom should look like are great.”



Trauma-informed Pacific educators network

[VIEW KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS →](#)

Our intentions for the talanoa

- + Connect with fellow Tama'ita'i Toa in Ōtautahi.
- + Create a safe space to talanoa.
- + Stimulate learning – create a vā space for authentic communication, mentoring, self-reflection and peer-coaching.
- + Centre and celebrate indigenous Pacific knowledge.

What we did

- + Tama'ita'i Toa – a talanoa for Pacific female teachers at C1 Espresso, facilitated by Daisy Lavea-Timo and Angeline Malae.
- + Trauma-informed practice through a Pacific worldview – a talanoa for Pacific educators at C1 Espresso, facilitated by Daisy Lavea-Timo and Angeline Malae.
- + Talanoa 2.0 - Trauma-informed practice through a Pacific worldview at University of Canterbury, facilitated by Daisy Lavea-Timo and Angeline Malae.

The following voices share the impact of the talanoa

*“Absolutely amazing night! Excellent speakers and programme!
Learnt so much, fa’afetai tele lava”*

“Inspiring talanoa!!”

“Beautiful how we can learn new things to help not only our young people but ourselves too.”



Empowering gender-diverse rangatahi in education

School can be a difficult place for gender-diverse ākonga, such as those who identify as transgender. This initiative supports schools to become more inclusive of gender-diverse ākonga, whānau and kaiako.

Our intentions

- + Work alongside rangatahi to help the education sector to become a safe and empowering place for rangatahi with diverse gender identities.
- + Create a range of resources and wānanga opportunities for boards, school tumuaki, senior leaders and kaiako.

What we did

- + Produced a video with an overview of the kaupapa and why we believe it is important for schools to engage with it.
- + Showing Up for Gender-Diverse Ākonga hui at The McFaddens Centre facilitated by Tyler Ngatai, Jordan Mayes, Dr Gabrielle Wall, Dr Chris Jansen, Grae Meek, Ari Dewar, Rose Cook and Janelle Riki-Waaka.

[VIEW VIDEO →](#)

The following voices share the impact of the hui

“I thought it was really valuable - a good mix of information from presenters' lived experiences to panelists.”

“It is very moving and inspired to take action and support those in this vulnerable space.”





Futures

Photo: Ākonga from Te Piki Kāhu Wigram Primary School



Secondary community of practice

Our intentions for the community of practice

- + Grow culturally sustainable change leadership in middle leaders.
- + Support teams of leaders to implement change projects.
- + Support broader collaboration, including between schools who are doing similar mahi.

What we did

- + One-day hui at Te Ora Hou Ōtautahi (further hui planned later in 2024) facilitated by Wiremu Gray, Amira Aman, Dr Chris Jansen, and Greg Jansen.
- + Ongoing 1:1 mentoring with principals.
- + Reached 13 secondary schools and 70 leaders.

The following voices share the impact of the community of practice

“It is an excellent opportunity to network and share learning with like-minded professionals, and it is a reminder of obligations under te Tiriti.”

“It was an excellent opportunity to focus on an aspect of my school's strategic plan with staff. I also appreciated the integration of tikanga Māori in both the hosting of the hui and leadership.”



Artificial intelligence

Our intentions

- + Embrace AI to support powerful learning.
- + Use AI tools to focus on learning processes rather than the product, for example, pedagogy, differentiation.
- + Shift thinking past the idea that AI is cheating.

What we did

- + Conducted two face-to-face workshops at Tātai Aho Rau Core Education facilitated by Nicki Tempero, Suzi Gould and Stephen McConnachie.
- + Conducted two webinars.
- + Reached 106 kaiako.

The following voices share the impact of the workshops

“I hadn't thought of the pedagogical applications, it's just been a play tool so far.”

“Differentiation tools – game changer!”





A climate for change

Our intentions for supporting the Positive Action for the Environment Youth Conference

- + Help young people learn how to care for the environment.
- + Help young people to see that others are doing things to care for the environment.
- + Explore ways that secondary kaiako can connect with this kaupapa.

What we did

- + Supported a group of educators to plan for the Positive Action for the Environment Youth Conference at Rangī Ruru Girls' School.
- + Presented at the Positive Action for the Environment Youth Conference – facilitated by Kerry Hall and Suzi Gould.
- + Reached 250 rangatahi and 33 schools across the rohe.

The following voices share the impact of the Positive Action for the Environment Youth Conference

"I believe the conference has inspired many to make long term sustainable plans in our society."

"It really inspired me to think about my actions and things I can do to help the environment. Also ways in which I could help others do the same."

”





Wellbeing



Photo: Ākonga from Pareawa Banks Ave School



Leading Learning through trauma informed education

Our intentions for the community of practice

- + Expand wellbeing literacy skills.
- + Share skills and expertise to lead change.
- + Learn from each other across the education sector.

What we did

- + Continued the work shared by Dr Emma Woodward and Dr Melanie Atkinson in terms one and two 2023.
- + Held two one-day hui at The McFaddens Centre facilitated by Kerry Hall, Suzi Gould, and Greg Jansen.
- + Offered a series of workshops facilitated by Gretchen Smith, Tumuaki at Te Huarahi | Linwood Avenue School, Dr Gabrielle Wall and Rich Matla from Leadership Lab, and Suzi Gould.
- + Reached 57 wellbeing leaders.



The following voices showcase the impact

"This hui gave me the space to reflect, learn and discuss ways forward for wellbeing in our kura. It is some of the best PD I've had in a very long time."

"This has been well paced over the year to reduce overload but to keep momentum. Each session was relevant, cohesive and informative."

"I'm looking forward to sharing my learnings with our team at school and whānau...looking at how we approach things differently."

Photos: Kaimahi and ākongā from Waitaha School



Learning Support Coordinator Symposium

Our intentions for the Learning Support Coordinator Symposium

- + Expand the network and knowledge.
- + Share skills and expertise.
- + Learn about proactive responses to behaviour and the collaborative proactive solutions model.

What we did

- + Held a one-day symposium at The McFaddens Centre facilitated by Kerry Hall, Suzi Gould, and Greg Jansen.
- + Reached 56 LSCs and SENCOs.

The following voices showcase the impact

“The content was useful. Hearing what's happening at schools was beneficial. The change management process was interesting to learn.”

“Excellent, interesting presentations and also the time to have valuable conversations with others in similar roles and with similar areas of interest.”

”

Waitaha Speaks

Our intentions for Waitaha Speaks

- + Positive youth engagement and development.
- + Strengthening leadership through poetry.
- + Cultivating and amplifying youth voices – celebrating their stories and aspirations for themselves, their whānau and their wider communities.
- + Kura and community engagement.

What we did

- + Workshops facilitated by Daisy Lavea-Timo at Papanui High School, Christchurch Girls' High School | Te Kura o Hine Waiora, Ao Tawhiti, and Cashmere High School to scaffold learning for rangatahi and to ‘teach the teacher.’

The following voices share the impact of the workshops

“More opportunities came to me after the Spoken Word. I got to present my poem to five more places, churches, and school events. It gave me more confidence in what I do. I'll be back next year. It helped me understand I can do it.”

“I wrote about something important to me.”

”



Pathways

Photo: Ākonga from Te Rōhutu Whio School



Kāhui Ako & Clusters Leadership Network

Our intentions for the network

- + Develop culturally sustaining practice, including allyship and relationships with papatipu rūnanga.
- + Strengthen intentional collaboration between kāhui ako.
- + Support coherent, seamless, evidence-informed pathways in kāhui ako.

What we did

- + Held four hui facilitated by Dr Cheryl Doig, Stephen McConnachie, Deirdre McCracken, and Suzi Gould.
- + Held Tokona Te Raki Futures thinking and intergenerational design hui at the Hornby Club facilitated by Alice Dimond.
- + Curriculum design collaboration and learner pathways hui at the Richmond Club facilitated by Catherine Law and John Thurston.
- + 50+ lead principals regularly attend – a wide catchment.

The following voices showcase the impact

“There was a clear commitment and effort in acknowledging and practising tikanga Māori.”

“It was great to see how other kāhui were operating.”



Grow Waitaha roadshows

Our intention for the roadshows

- + Roadshows showcase kaupapa in schools, ‘by teachers, for teachers.’

What we did

- + A roadshow was held at Paparoa Street School focusing on “How to keep your cultural narrative alive.”
- + 20 kaiako from Ōtautahi, Selwyn and Waimakariri attended.

The following voices share the impact of the Roadshow

“Great insight and great to have kaiako at the centre sharing their mahi and enthusiasm.”

“A beautiful project on their cultural narrative.”





Storytelling

Photo: Ākonga from Pareawa Banks Ave School

We aim to widen our impact by celebrating stories so that everyone can learn from each other.

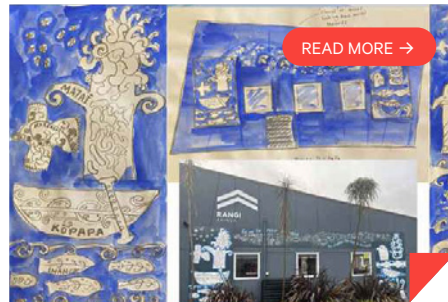


Impact stories we celebrated



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Inspiring youth to lead the change



[READ MORE →](#)

Paparoa Street Roadshow



[READ MORE →](#)

Impacting Change in Ōtautahi



[READ MORE →](#)

Bringing destreaming to life



[READ MORE →](#)

Amplifying youth voices through spoken word



[READ MORE →](#)

Tama'ita'i Toa



[READ MORE →](#)

DigiAwards 10 years on



[READ MORE →](#)

Year 9 technology students' experience of transitioning to secondary school

We provide a wealth of online resources developed in collaboration with the sector.



Resources we created

Ngā Pou - Grow Waitaha resources overview



DOWNLOAD →

Kōkirihiā Wānanga Rangatahi



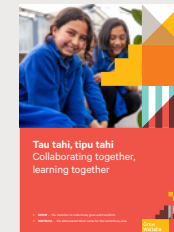
DOWNLOAD →

Planning guide for Technology Transitions



DOWNLOAD →

What we do



DOWNLOAD →

Finding Good Information



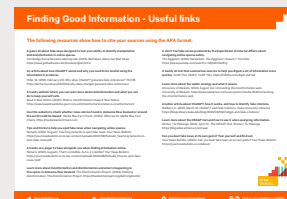
A guide for kaiako

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A brochure for rangatahi

DOWNLOAD →



Useful links

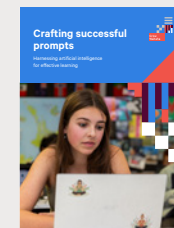
DOWNLOAD →

A guide to ākongā wellbeing



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Crafting successful AI prompts



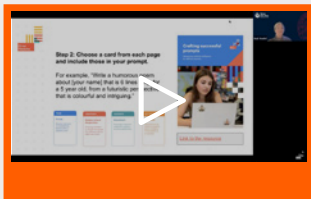
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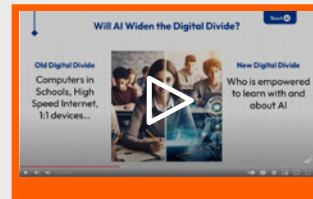
Resources we created

Embracing AI for powerful learning



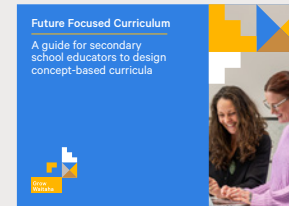
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AI in schools



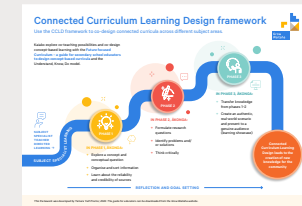
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Future Focused Curriculum guide



[DOWNLOAD →](#)

Connected Curriculum framework



[DOWNLOAD →](#)

Whakapā mai Get in touch

Read and share our stories www.growwaitaha.co.nz/our-stories

Share your story of your school journey or change experience.

Have a kōrero with us at growwaitaha@gmail.com

Identify a problem, solution or resource that will make an impact on our sector. Find resources www.growwaitaha.co.nz/find-resources



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